

HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



HOSPITALS

EARLY in November Robert C. Ogden and Francis B. Reeves, representing the Johnstown Relief Commission of 1889, performed the final official act of the commission in paying over to the Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital the sum of three thousand and seventy-five dollars. This is the sixteenth and final payment to that hospital. The last action taken by the commission as a whole was to create annuities of seventy-five dollars, payable annually in November, to each child orphan of the flood until it should attain the age of sixteen years, to erect the hospital, and to pay to it annually the sums held for the benefit of orphans who should die before their sixteenth year. The sum just paid represents the shares of five deceased orphans. Of the whole number (about eighty) three were born to widows after the flood.—*Charities*.

THE Mountainside Hospital, Montclair, N. J. (thirteen miles from New York), has about completed its new building, which will be formally opened early in February. The new building will be used in connection with the present hospital, thus increasing the scope of the work. It is equipped with sixty beds, has surgical, medical, and maternity wards, also many private rooms of various sizes and prices. Its Training-School for Nurses is much enlarged, and the rooms devoted to the nurses more commodious than formerly. The school has a three-years' course, which includes a three-months' training in the "Lying-in Hospital," New York.

A GIFT to the Newton Hospital, Newton Lower Falls, Mass., of an addition to the Nurses' Home by Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Day in memory of Mrs. Day's father, William P. Ellison, is worthy of note as setting no definite sum to be expended, merely donating the actual cost of the building and its furnishings when completed, so that so far as the building is concerned no added expense is laid upon the hospital.

THE sum of thirty thousand dollars has recently been given by Miss Helen Wells, of Saginaw, Mich., for the purpose of erecting a special tuberculosis building in connection with the well-equipped general hospital already in existence. Pending the erection of this building a part of the sum is available for the salary of a visiting nurse, and other provision for the care of poor consumptives in their homes.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Massachusetts to ask Congress to establish a Federal hospital for lepers. It is reported that the three lepers that are State charges in Massachusetts are costing that State ten thousand dollars a year. Although the State Board of Charity has made every effort to place them satisfactorily, it has not been successful.

TWO hundred thousand dollars has already been given towards a fund for the erection of a new Toronto General Hospital, but the work will not be commenced until a much larger sum has been subscribed. An entertainment given by the "Elks" realized two thousand dollars, which was added to the fund.

A NEW Nurses' Home is being built in connection with the General Hospital, Woodstock, Canada. It will be formally opened in February, 1905.

A GOVERNMENT military hospital is to be erected in New York City at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars.

TRAINING-SCHOOL NOTES

THE *Journal of the American Medical Association* comments on a proposition that has been made to add a fifth year for preliminary instruction in medical colleges that the student of medicine may be better prepared for medical work. The *Journal* takes the ground that while more extended and thorough preparation for the medical student is necessary, it should be given in a university or institution for general learning. We quote a few lines that apply with equal force to nursing education:

"Medicine is applied science, its study and practice consisting in the application to the investigation and treatment of disease of the principles, facts, and methods of certain fundamental sciences—among them physics, chemistry, and the several biologic branches. Preparation for medicine, as for any other profession, naturally divides itself into a general education, whose chief purpose is the training of the faculties and the mastering of the fundamental subjects, and technical instruction in the application of these fundamental sciences to the specific problems of medicine.

"General education is the province of the institution devoted to that purpose—the secondary schools and the college or university. The medical school should devote itself exclusively to the technical instruction, the applied science, and this it can only do to best advantage when its students have already mastered, in a broad and comprehensive manner, the principles and methods of the sciences to be applied. . . . Many medical students of the present time are unable to speak and write the English language as correctly as is befitting to the members of a learned profession; a majority have not had the training in mathematics which is essential to the thorough and intelligent comprehension of modern physics and chemistry. . . . The time has arrived when every medical college should demand at least one year of college work, in specified, essential branches, as a prerequisite for admission. It will, however, defeat the very purpose which is sought to be accomplished, if, encroaching on the domain of the institution for general learning, the medical college attempts to give instruction in subjects entirely without its province and which it is wholly unfitted to undertake."

THE Rhode Island Hospital at Providence has established a preliminary course. From the superintendent's annual report we quote the following:

"The Nurses' Home, which was built amply large when erected eleven years ago, has not been able for some time to accommodate the nurses on duty, and for some years there has been overcrowding and discomfort. During the past year a frame building to the west of the home has been purchased and connected with it by a covered passageway. This affords some relief; but with our new curriculum for nurses, which provides for a preliminary training, it is necessary to have more nurses on duty, and with this extra number the quarters are again crowded to their limits. It seems imperative that provision be made at once to care properly for these extra nurses, and unless an addition to the home is built it will be necessary either to hire a building in the neighborhood for the